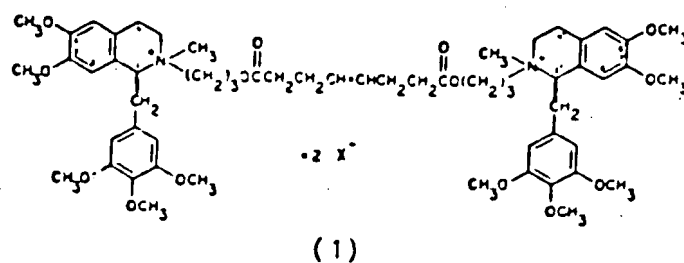


We claim:

1. A compound of the formula (1)



wherein X is a pharmaceutically acceptable anion.

2. A compound of claim 1 wherein the central double bond is in the (E) configuration or (Z) configuration.
3. A compound of claim 2 which is the RS-RS diastereomer.
4. A compound of claim 2 which is the RS-RR diastereomer.
5. A mixture comprising the RS-RS, RS-RR and RR-RR diastereomers of a compound of the formula (1) as described in claim 2.
6. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (1) described in claim 1, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

7. A method of producing muscle relaxation in a mammal which comprises parenterally administering to a mammal an effective muscle relaxation amount of a compound of claim 1.
8. The method of claim 7 in which the compound is administered in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
9. A compound of claim 1 where X is Cl.
10. A mixture according to claim 5 wherein X is Cl.
11. A composition according to claim 6 wherein X is Cl.
12. A method according to claim 7 wherein X is Cl.
13. A compound of claim 1 which is the  
2,2' [(E)-4-Octenedioylbis(oxytrimethylene)]bis[(1R,2R-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinum] cation in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable anion.
14. A compound of claim 1 which is the  
(E)-(1R,1'R,2R,2'S)-2,2'-(4-Octenedioylbis(oxytri-  
methylene)]bis[1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinum] cation in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable anion.

15. A compound of claim 1 which is the  
2,2'-[[(E)-4-Octenedioylbis(oxytrimethylene)]bis[(1R,2S)-1,2,3,4-  
tetrahydro-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)  
isoquinolinium] cation in association with a pharmaceutically  
acceptable anion.
16. A method for producing muscle relaxation in a mammal which  
comprises parenterally administering to a mammal an effective  
muscle relaxant amount of one or more of the compounds of claims  
13, 14, or 15.
17. A pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more of the  
compounds of claims 13, 14, or 15 and a  
pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.
18. A compound of claim 13, 14, or 15, in which the anion  
is the chloride anion.